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THE

Coming Struggle

IN THE

United States and Canada

AND ITS ORIGIN.



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 **I**T is now many years since the great historian and statesman, the late Lord Macaulay, predicted serious times in the United States when its cities became populous and the poor cried for bread. Such conditions in any country in this year of civilization are certainly serious. There is that in our advanced civilization in America, however, that suggests to the hardworking intelligent man, as well as to the more highly educated, a social and economic condition that cannot bear the search-light of truth and equity or harmonise with the teachings of the meek and lowly Nazarene.

The coming struggle that is now slowly and gradually stealing upon us, and apparently almost unnoticed and certainly unheeded, may be best defined as a mental conflict at present between labour, intelligence and intellect on the one hand and capital and officialism on the other.

To the intelligent man borne down with the difficult, and perhaps futile struggle for the bare necessities of life, and with even a rudimentary idea that labor, in which his own is included, is the foundation of all wealth,—it will not, I apprehend, be difficult for such a man to be moved to angry demonstrations, yes, demonstrations that will be an intimation to the capitalist and official that something

must be done to mitigate the condition of not only the industrial classes but all others depending upon them for bread; including traders, commercial and professional men of all kinds; in short as I have before stated, the struggle will be, and is between labor, intelligence and intellect on the one side and the millionaires and officials who are in sympathy with them on the other. Will mind or matter survive the conflict; will intellect, imperial, regal God-like intellect or brutal wealth, too often dishonestly acquired, be the victor. Will laborious, intellectual democracy, strengthened refined and purified by its close alliances, sympathies and affinities with the great minds of the past, as well as the present, assert itself, or will the coarse and brutal natures put back the clock of time once more and leave the world more brutal, more animal and more criminal than ever. It is of America I am speaking, for it was to America that many of our ancestors were driven by a civilization in some respects quite as bad as the one being gradually forced upon us by our present social and economic laws. It is in America that the last battle for intellect as opposed to selfish, greed and crime will take place,—God defend the right. Had our ancestors who fled from the barbarously refined civilizations of the old world, preferring even the associations of the savage in the new, I say, had they considered that a century or two would bring about a somewhat similar social and economic condition to their descendants, surely the hardships and vicissitudes of the new life in the new world would not have been so easily, so patiently and so philosophically borne.

Little did the educated and refined men and women who crossed the angry Atlantic for America, two hundred years and more ago, to escape from the tyranny of a Charles I, or James the II, realize that before the third century had commenced in America, in free America, the land of the free and the home of the descendants of the brave, a tyrant would arise quite as exacting, quite as brutal and even more dangerous than the most infamous of the Stuart kings,—“The Tyrant Capital.”

If we read history aright, and in the light of the past civilizations for several centuries in Britain and America, there has been no period when the mind was less disturbed by the inequitable and unjust condi-

tions imposed by tyranny and wealth than the period in America preceding a hundred years—the American Revolution of 1776. In 1676 and for about fifty years before and fifty years after the old colonial days in Massachusetts, Connecticut and other colonies in America were decidedly utopian compared with the last thirty-five years. The revolution of 1776 seemed to strengthen the ties of human brotherhood, and the war of 1812 both in the United States and Canada had a similar effect, for fear is the foundation of society, and I may add that the purity and solidarity of society depend upon the strength and quality of the spirit of human brotherhood among its members. The last American revolution or civil war being brought about by causes quite dissimilar from the first, when it closed it would appear that all of the worst feelings engendered during the conflict were perpetuated and carried into social, business and political life. The spirit of human brotherhood that once solved the just and equitable distribution of the fruits of labor in America has been gradually dying out, and greed, selfishness, cunning and all of the very worst characteristics of the race, dominate. Men are still slowly murdering their brothers without even the pretext of war.

With the introduction of railways, telegraphs, electrical and scientific appliances of every kind, the American age in an ethical sense, has been retrograding,—and as the poet Goldsmith wrote more than a century and a half ago,—as wealth increases men decay.

When we consider the condition of the human race at different epochs of the worlds,—history, and when the naturally improving and evolutionary conditions at successive periods be taken into account we should have cause for hope, still the bravest become pessimists in speculating as to the future of America ; even, with the advantages of a knowledge of the past to guide us, we are by no means reassured,—for the chief causes leading to our present condition were unknown until within the last thirty years. Politicians, statesmen, historians, philosophers, wits, poets, warriors, authors and others, each in their turn and in their own way, have spoken, written, or sung of social and economic wrongs as ages have passed by, and two daring novelists Bellamy and Donnelley have by a century's stretch taken us into the future for a solution.

After these general observations my aim now will be to treat of our present condition in America, chiefly in Canada, in Ontario, but more particularly as to how these conditions have been brought about. As facts and figures are not as a rule specially inviting I shall endeavor to approach them gradually,—for it is, of what might be termed the arithmetic of life, and the great corduroy roads upon which the masses have always been travelling, and upon which they are now travelling, and of the masses and their condition to which I desire more especially to direct your attention and the attention of the rulers of the country. One thing is certain, that all now agree, that it is “man’s inhumanity to man makes countless millions mourn”—we think it might be very pertinently added just here, that it is the countless millions of dollars of the few acquired by man’s inhumanity and dishonesty to man that makes countless millions hungry starving and mourning. No man or woman who was born, has been cradled and always lived in luxury, can for a moment realize the effects produced upon the mind as well as the body by hardships and poverty; in fact the man, or woman, who has been uniformly successful in pursuit of either wealth or happiness, or both, can in the broadest sense of the term be considered only half educated; it is the journeys on the great corduroys of life that are the greatest although the most severe educators. The philanthropist may look upon, pity and assist the poor but there are often circumstances surrounding and incident to poverty that none but the poor can understand, or perhaps I might more properly say—feel.

The intelligent, honest man well informed upon economic problems, and knowing and feeling that his condition has in quite a considerable degree been made worse, possibly very much worse by the dishonesty of politicians and the ruling classes, and feeling and knowing at the same time that if they had been as upright and honest as himself they would be in no better position, financially or otherwise. I say no man not similarly situated and with similar feelings can understand the feelings of millions in the United States and Canada in this year of grace. What will the outcome be? As long as poverty was confined almost altogether to the improvident, intemperate and ignorant, and rarely found in the homes of the industrious, economical and educated, no one had anything to fear for no special wrong had been done; but, now, when the sober and industrious laborer and artisan without work and without any fault of their own being prevented from carrying out the

Divine command. The business and professional man, in fact when nearly everyone, except the millionaires and officials, more or less, feel the pinch of poverty, all with one accord begin to inquire into the causes. There are few so unintelligent as not to know that there is just as much capital in the country now as at any former period. Is it not, therefore, our duty to enquire where that capital is, and how, and why, it has been taken from proper legitimate, industrial and commercial pursuits; in other words, why it has been taken from the people and given to the few without any equivalent in return to the people. Certainly we ourselves must have been derelict in our duties in not making a stronger protest before; for it is well known that for many years the whole trend of legislation both in the United States and Canada has been in the interest of the wealthy and official classes. Representatives or deputations waiting upon the governments either at Washington, Toronto or Ottawa, in the interests of railways, loaning, banking or other corporate wealthy institutions and millionaires have always found a willing ear, yes, sometimes quite suspiciously willing, though in the majority of cases the subventions asked for by these institutions are diametrically opposed to the interests of the masses. Subsidies given to these institutions and millionaires must come from the people in the long run. I have never yet known, either at Toronto or Ottawa, a subsidy granted to a railway company unless in the directorate of the company, there were personal and political friends of the government granting the subsidy; thus it is that millions of dollars have been granted to railway companies upon personal and political, not upon broad public grounds and in the interest of the people as a whole.

Whilst public men, the public purse, the masses, some millionaires and corporations, stand in this relation to each other in Canada and the United States, be it said to the credit of British statesmen that they have very notably and wisely been legislating, for the last fifty years and more, for the poor and those in moderate circumstances. In Britain the load is being gradually shifted from the shoulders of the weak to the shoulders of the strong, whilst in the United States and Canada the very reverse has been taking place. The British statesman accepts without question the theory that capitalists are quite able to take care of themselves without the intervention or assistance of governments or corporations or any special legislation; hence it is that the well informed Briton and British statesmen look upon the majority of Canadian politicians with little less than disgust and aversion. In the days of Robin Hood the English highwaymen robbed the rich and gave a portion to the poor, but every reading intelligent man on either side of the Atlantic knows that our poor perfidious

place hunting politicians, in Canada and the United States only thinking of themselves and partners in political perfidy, have been systematically plundering the masses and giving the plunder to the rich until now the masses are no longer worth plundering; in fact the condition of the masses, in many large cities of America, is quite analagous to the condition of the poor in Britain fifty and a hundred years ago, and out of which British statesmen have been gradually leading them through a long and dreary wilderness into green pastures. Knowing of the distress and poverty in many of the cities of America where all, or comparatively all, should have plenty I cannot refrain from saying that the most unparalleled dishonesty and perfidy must have permeated political life in America. In nearly every part of North America the condition of very many of the people in nearly all walks of life is such that all good and wise men deeply deplore, though the millionaires and officials cry on with the dance let joy be unconfined. The Neroes are fiddling while Rome is burning!

Not wishing to be misunderstood, or to place myself in a position to be accused of extreme socialistic views, this may be the proper place for me to state that my fight is with those who dishonestly and improperly acquire wealth, either by individual acts of dishonesty, or who, by winks, connivings, or understandings with politicians or officials, rob the public either directly or indirectly.

I have no quarrel with the man who by his own unaided exertions, or by gift, inheritance, or in any honest manner acquires a fortune. I have no quarrel with the man who like a true Briton only asks, for a fair field and no favor, for no subventions, that tend to displace economic forces unjustly. I may be permitted, however, to observe in passing that if in the great economy of nature, and nature's God, every man did his duty to his fellow-man, as one of the parts of the great organism of life, there would be no millionaires in any country and consequently no paupers, and other things being equal that country that has the fewest millionaires, in proportion to population, is certainly the best governed.

If the circumstances connected with the acquisition of millions by any one individual, either in the United States or Canada, be closely enquired into, we oftener find than otherwise, that it has been done through connivings and understandings with governments or corporations and officials connected with governments and corporations.

The largest, most atrocious, and most diabolical plundering of the people in the United States and Canada has been done in the granting

of cash and land subsidies to railway corporations, and upon close investigation it is found that, in nearly every instance, some of the most prominent government officials connected with these transactions have been largely recouped for their assistance and manipulations.

In proportion to the population, wealth and developed resources of Canada, history, either ancient or modern, affords no precedent in any country in the world to compare with the magnitude of the transaction when the government of Canada, with the assistance of a venal majority in parliament and without a mandate from the people; voted to a syndicate composed of some six or seven of their personal and political friends an area of as fertile land as there is in America and larger by thirty per cent than the whole arable lands of the Province of Ontario, with sixty-three millions of dollars, several hundred miles of completed railway, and many special subventions, amounting altogether to not less than one hundred and fifty millions of dollars. Quite correctly speaking the government of Sir John Macdonald taxed the people of Canada to build the Canadian Pacific Railway and made a present of it to some six or seven of their personal and political friends. In return for the twenty-five millions of the people's heritage, and many millions of the people's money, thus given away to government favorites, what have we in return—prosperity—no, but the very opposite, poverty and distress and the natural sequence, suicide, crime and murder multiplying. Many farmers and business-men all over the Dominion becoming alarmed at the boldness and audacity of the governments, giving away the people's possessions with apparent impunity, have left the country, and so great has been the haste to fly from such conditions that thousands of farms have been placed upon the market, and the supply has been so much greater than the demand, that farm lands have shrunk in value to the amount of not less than four hundred millions of dollars. In Ontario the shrinkage has been two hundred and fifty millions.

As the Province of Ontario is essentially an agricultural province, and as its prosperity and the prosperity of the villages, towns and cities depends upon the prosperity of the farmers, let me ask what can be the condition of many of the denizens of the villages, towns and cities? Is it not well known that in the once prosperous city of Toronto there are very many hundreds of laborers, artisans, merchants and professional men living in a manner that a few years ago would have been characterized as poverty stricken. How many thousands in Canada in nearly all walks of life, able and willing to work, who can find nothing to do—and why? Because a large proportion of the capital of the country, by the most dishonest and venal legislation and methods

that have ever disgraced the records or statutes of any country in the world, except the United States, has been legislated into the hands of not many more than a thousand, thus practically withdrawn from circulation from the development of the country, hence from the labourer and artisan, and all others depending upon them, and who are not except the fractional number for whose benefit, it would appear, all the others are now made to suffer—and this is Canadian statesmanship!!!

It is not the money given away to railway magnates and officials that is entirely responsible for this condition for have we not for eighteen years had a so-called protective policy by the operations of which a few hundred millions more have been legislated from the people and given to the few who from year to year, in many cases, are withdrawing it from circulation and, therefore, from the development of the country and the laborer and artisan. I may be allowed to state that capital engaged in manufacturing under a high protective tariff does infinitely more injury, to the people in the aggregate, than it can possibly do good for it becomes the great coercive factor in the unequal, unjust and dishonest distribution of the wealth of the country, and labor the foundation of all wealth is the greatest sufferer in the long run. Though the protectionist and capitalist at times affect great solicitude for the laborer I am inclined to the view of the great Russian Count, Tolstoi, who says that the capitalist will do everything for the laborer but get off his back. Any operation by which toll is taken from thousands and given by coercion to one individual and that without any equivalent in return by that individual is unjust and dishonest and, therefore, opposed to God's great ethical and economic laws. Any legislation that tends to make a few wealthy at the expense of the masses, as a great deal of the legislation in Canada has done, and without any equivalent to the masses to preserve the equilibrium of economic forces, will in time bring disaster to any country the people of which have the same characteristics as the Anglo-Saxon. The condition of the masses in England for fifty years before free trade was adopted, and their condition now fifty years after, is a complete answer to all the specious reasonings and sophistries of the interested protectionist. The coercive principle of protection is, and the results of its application are, both in an ethical and economic sense always substantially the same. It has now been on trial in Canada for eighteen years and, notwithstanding the protestations of the protectionists and millionaires to the contrary, every well informed man in the Dominion knows that the distress and poverty are something alarming, and to protection as much as to any other agency can it be attributed. I am quite within the mark in stating that in less than twenty years,

by our protective, railway and millionaire methods of government, four hundred millions of dollars have been legislated out of the hands of five millions of people into the swollen pockets of not many more than a thousand, and the dishonesty and perfidy connected with the operations have so destroyed confidence in the future of the country that the value of the assets, of the people, have been lessened a good deal more than four hundred millions. The people of Canada have, therefore, been plundered, directly and indirectly, by their political leaders to more than eight hundred millions of dollars. During this most extraordinarily eventful period in Canadian history more than a million Canadians have left the country as they could see no hope under such rulers, and at a very low estimate this would mean a drain of four hundred millions of dollars. Altogether within the last twenty years there has been a tearing to pieces of our economic interests and a displacement of economic forces to the extent of more than twelve hundred millions of dollars; and this is one of the results of Canadian statesmanship. During this bloodless, or rather semi-bloodless, revolution it is quite beyond the powers of man to depict in any language even a part of the misery, want and suffering thus entailed upon a once prosperous and happy people by their rulers. From peace, prosperity and contentment in less than twenty years we have now all the demoralization, want and misery incident to many of the most uncivilized countries of the old world. Notwithstanding, this almost unprecedented condition of the country, there are a class of men among us who have the brazen effrontery, in the very face of facts, to tell us that Canada is prosperous. As a matter of fact there are no five million people in any English speaking country in the world where the condition of the people is more critical and alarming. The masses in Canada are too well educated and intelligent not to know and analyse the causes which have led to our present condition and they find as I do that where there should be peace and plenty we have misery and want, yes, misery and want brought about almost wholly by the greed, venality and perfidy of our rulers, millionaires and official classes. Restore to the people of Canada even one-half of the many millions of which they have been plundered, by the politicians, millionaires and officials, and in less than one month we would have contentment, peace and plenty on all hands and woe, lamentation and mourning would be seen no more upon the streets.

There is a class of what is known as the jingo politicians in Canada who are continually pointing the finger of scorn at the dishonest methods of American politicians closing their eyes and ears to the fact that the most infamous methods of American politicians have been most closely copied and followed by Canadian politicians the only

apparent difference being that when the American political or municipal criminal is found out he is imprisoned, at least; in Canada, if the steal has been large enough, he is generally recommended for and receives a knighthood, and sometimes placed in some high official position that he may be, I presume, a sort of object lesson to other aspirants for political fame. Thus, it is that for twenty years, the public mind and public morals of the electorate and politicians of Canada have been exposed to a test that the political conscience could not sustain; we, too, frequently find politicians now-a-days who only a short time ago would have looked with horror upon certain venal and dishonest methods, now apparently only too willing to endorse them under the changed conditions of political parties,—“seen too oft familiar with its face we first endure, then pity, then embrace.” What will the outcome be? Verily as wealth has increased in the hands of a few in Canada men have decayed. It is too well known that there are men occupying high official and political positions in Canada now on account of their wealth solely, and without the slightest regard to their fitness or capabilities, and who forty or fifty years ago would have been excluded from political life as non-entities unworthy of recognition by the electorate.

There are men in the senate of Canada, quite recent appointments, who forty years ago would not have dared to aspire to a higher position than that of town councillor or city alderman and, in some instances it is the very plunder taken from the people that apparently is their only recommendation. I have never yet known a Canadian millionaire who had, or has, any of the characteristics of a statesman. I have in my mind just now a Canadian senator whose only generosity to the poor through life consisted in his spending several hundred dollars in corrupting them from election to election, and hence the senatorship. Considering the character of men we have had playing at statesmanship in Canada can it be wondered at that we are in this deplorable condition. Thirty, forty, fifty and even sixty years ago, when the population was not half of what it is now, we had in Upper and Lower Canada as rulers, the Baldwin's, Lafontaines, Robinsons, Blakes, Galts, Brown, Dorion and other men, who, from their acknowledged integrity, abilities and positions were by common consent the acknowledged leaders in the country and statesmen and patriots as well. The electorate at that time were not nearly as much concerned about the size of a politicians bank balances as they were about the size of his head and heart. Oh, what a falling off my countrymen since the days of the old leaders! Surely as wealth has increased in the hands of a few in Canada men have very much decayed.

Even with the enlarged sphere of political action since Confederation, what has the last quarter of a century brought forth: With the exception of Blake, Cartwright, Laurier, McCarthy, Thompson, Meredith, Tarte, Davies and Mills, who among those who have been in any sense our rulers, are worthy of the name of statesmen: Of petty placemen, office-seekers and office-holders, we have a superabundance: Of men who have been willing to violate and cast aside the professed principles of their earlier lives, and make their principles a simple question of revenue, we have scores,—they are always with us—who among the politicians in Canada for the last twenty years with an eye single to the good of the people, can we name? Surely not the men who have been chiefly instrumental in landing us in our present deplorable condition; not the men who have in order to secure or retain office and its emoluments conspired with now-titled speculators to hand over the possessions of the people to these speculators or more correctly speaking who have conspired to make millionaires of a few and paupers of many—certainly not these. Then, who have we except the ones I have named along the whole line of Politicians for the last twenty years, at least, who deserve the name of Statesman. That certain leaders have been in power or office for many years is no proof of true statesmanship when we consider that in this Dominion and in the premier province of Ontario, political power has been attained, and held by the leaders bringing into requisition the most destructive and disreputable forces, and in the centralization of political power in the hands of capitalists and politicians to the very serious injury of the people: in fact, these are the kind of politicians who have been the ruin of, our once inviting and prosperous country. In Britain, for the last seventy-five years no party has been in power for longer than eight years at a time and only twice for even eight years during the seventy-five. The British electorate seem to have properly gauged the strain political virtue will stand. Not so in Canada, or it may be that British statesmen object to the methods of some Canadian politicians, who have the art of remaining in power, year after year, and decade after decade, by living and thriving on the very corruption and dishonesty they themselves originate and engender. Withal I believe it to be easier to put a Canadian politician out of office than to change his nature.

Is it any wonder that Canada's truly great son many years ago, realising the effect that such a Carnival of Corruption that was then obtaining, would have upon the public mind and public purse, was out of the fulness and bitterness of his heart led to exclaim, "God help poor Canada." To-day every well-informed man, who is not living upon the spoils taken from the people or an official who is obliged to bend

the knee to the political or millionaire Baals in order to retain his place, may well exclaim with the Hon. Edward Blake, "God help poor Canada." Any young country containing only five millions of people whose economic condition has been so disrupted and overturned as Canada's by political and millionaire spoilsmen, that a few hundred millionaires conspiring with politicians have taken to themselves at least one-third of the nett wealth of the country. I say, any young country thus environed by spoilsmen, I fear requires a stronger arm to protect it, than the impotent arm of the Canadian politician of the last twenty years. It seems to me that the people of Canada have been very much at fault in not laying their grievances by petition before the British Government many years ago and before the country had been reduced to a condition hardly worth contending for as a home for a self-respecting people. It is not by any means too much to say that legislation and government in Canada for many years have been little less than a conspiracy among politicians, millionaires and officials to despoil the people and enrich themselves, and the success of the conspiracy has certainly been unprecedented. Whilst the larger fields and larger possessions controlled by Dominion politicians have given greater scope to the greedy, unscrupulous spoilsmen connected with the late Dominion Government, what intelligent, independent, honest Liberal in the Province of Ontario, who has watched the trend of political life in his own Province can point the finger of scorn at his political opponent, in discussing the purity or venality of the political life of either party in this Province.

For about forty years after the rebellion of 1837 all of the great constitutional principles which go to make responsible government, and all of which were conceded not long after the rebellion, were from year to year, and decade to decade, defended, guarded and perpetuated by the old heroes of liberalism in Upper Canada, and for a few years in Ontario. The MacKenzies, Baldwins, Brown, the Blake's and other old liberals guarded their principles with an heroic vigilance and persistence worthy of the men and the cause. The spoilsmen cut no figure with the old heroes of liberalism in this country.

How has it been for the last twenty years under the leadership of Sir Oliver Mowat? Unhappily is it not well known that every one of the principles advocated in the press, on the platform and in parliament, for nearly forty years after the rebellion, have been from time to time violated and cast aside by the new brood of liberals in Ontario of which Sir Oliver Mowat, until recently and for over twenty-three years, was the leader and chief incubator. All constitutional

writers agree in substance in stating that the independence of parliament is the very ground work to pure and safe legislation. Men like the Hon. Edward Blake, the late Hon. Geo. Brown and others of the old liberal school considered it as vital in carrying out constitutional government in the provinces. The new brood of liberals, however, have violated this principle hundreds of times, most notably, by the appointing members of parliament to positions in the gift of the government. Every sheriff, registrar or clerk so appointed is a direct blow to responsible government. In this utilitarian age I ask, is a member of parliament likely to vote against any measure, however bad, if introduced by the government from whom he is expecting a life appointment to a lucrative position. For twenty years the office in sight has been made a standing bribe for support by the Mowat government. What greater or more complete violation of the independence of parliament could there be? The man who affirms to the contrary is certainly not less, although he may be a good deal more than a political hypocrite.

Have the true Liberals of this Province with the lives of the great exemplars of Liberalism, Baldwin, Brown and Blake before them, so soon forgotten that the most disgraceful and inexcusable act of Nepotism ever practised in Ontario, was only a few years ago, when the government of Ontario and Sir Oliver Mowat the Premier of that government, appointed Sir Oliver's son to the Shrievalty of Toronto, and thus by Sir Oliver's example leaving the door wide open for every other member of the government, and every member of parliament supporting the government, securing important positions for their relatives, however incompetent and undeserving. No wonder Sir Oliver is so immensely popular with the spoilsmen, after establishing such a precedent. How can the members of a Legislature and ministers of the Crown, upon whom all State matters depend, be expected to be, or be men capable of discharging important duties and trusts under Responsible Government, if the two most important of its supports be by them cast aside, and a desire for office and the spoils of office, made the mainspring and motive of political action.

This new brood of Liberals have been guilty of not only violating the independence of Parliament hundreds of times and practising Nepotism as long as even one relative was left unprovided for out of the public funds, but have they not within the last few years more than once endeavored to suppress Free Speech, which is certainly a very important support to Responsible Government. In short, have they not within the last ten years cast aside every support to Responsible Government until now it is apparently considered by them, but

little more than a parliamentary phrase.

The truth of the matter is, that the violation of Liberal principles has been carried to that extent by the Mowat Government of Ontario, and the electorate have become so accustomed to it, yes, so hardened to it and corrupted by it, that it now hardly excites comment. Twenty-five, thirty, forty or fifty years ago, had a Liberal Leader in Ontario violated Liberal principles as Sir Oliver Mowat has done, he would have found himself without a following in Parliament within twenty-four hours, and within one week would have been denounced as a traitor to his party and his country from every concession line and every side line in every township, and in every village, town and city in the province, and driven from public life in ignominy and disgrace for ever. One of the worst and most painful features connected with the demoralized condition of the electorate in Ontario is to be found in the fact that the once considered sacred rights of Christianity, have so to speak, been brought into requisition and prostituted to the basest purposes of a political time-server to maintain his political ascendancy in defiance of the best and noblest instincts and traditions of the Liberal party—and this is what is termed statesmanship by the Ontario Liberals.

If the reader require any further proof of the venality and dishonesty of the Leaders of Ontario Liberalism let him cast his eyes over the public accounts of the province, and add up the thousands and hundreds of thousands expended every year in rewarding the political heelers who have become a part and parcel of the party organization, at the public expense. Can it not be fitly said that this government has been living and thriving on the very corruption and dishonesty they themselves have originated and engendered.

Is it any wonder that the Hon. Edward Blake exclaimed "God help poor Canada," knowing as he did the nature and character of the men dominating political life in the Dominion and premier province of Ontario : and is it any wonder that this able and high-minded Canadian left this carnival of sickening corruption and venality, and sought the associations of the high-minded and honorable men who dominate all political parties in Great Britain.

You ask, Dear Reader, what has this to do with the "COMING STRUGGLE." My reply is that it is one of the kind of politicians I have been describing and their perfidious acts that have brought the struggle upon us. After what I have said in denunciation of corrupt and venal methods and the effects of which have so long polluted politi-

cal life, and paralyzed our most important interests, I would consider my utterances as more or less devoid of point were I to bring them to a close without turning my attention to our new rulers at Ottawa, and asking where they will be found in the great struggle between labor, intelligence and intellect on the one side, and the millionaires and officials who are in sympathy with them on the other. After all, this is the real issue, however much the cunning politicians and millionaires may see fit to obscure and disguise it. The people, the masses, in Canada as well as in the United States, have been legislated into this attitude by the politicians and millionaires. It is not their choosing; it has been forced upon them. As I have before stated both in the United States and Canada the whole trend of legislation has been in the interests of the wealthy and official classes.

For nearly a quarter of a century, the sordid, selfish, corrupt and brutal side of Canadians has appealed to, on all occasions, and in this manner has the public mind been educated.—The results we know and deplore.—Honesty and purity in political life has been trifled with, and sneered at by the machine politicians, until now we are brought face to face with a condition, that none but the most superficial can contemplate without alarm.

Although our forms and principles of government differ in many respects from the American's, the methods of the politicians and millionaires and the combinations formed by them are precisely the same: In fact, the two most noted public robbers who have ever been given an opportunity by the politicians to despoil the people of Canada, had their first lessons from that notorious railway highwayman, "Jim Hill" of St. Paul, Minnesota, and the plunder they have taken from the people of Canada during the last sixteen years is a pretty good evidence that they were apt pupils in American methods.

The tyrant capital has been a hard master to the Canadian people generally. How very different it might have been had our rulers been true to their country and true to the people whose guardians they were, instead of a population of five millions of discontented and impoverished people, and the discredit that now attaches to the Canadian politician, we might have had a population of at least ten millions of prosperous people, and statesmen respected in every European capital. The civilization that has been forced upon us, is one unworthy of a free people and better suited to the subjects of a Despot or the peasants of a conquered nation than the descendants of those who fought against the tyrant Stuarts of England and the Bourbons of France.

Will our present Rulers knowing our condition, and the causes that have led to it, rise equal to the great emergency now staring them in the face, or will the tyrant capital be allowed to perch himself higher and higher in the legislative and senatorial halls of our country until all that is best and noblest in the land be either crushed or driven away.

No rulers have ever been called upon to deal with a graver crisis than is now presented to the people of Canada, and the United States, and their Rulers. When the late Lord Macaulay predicted serious times in the United States, when its cities became populous and the poor cried for bread, the fact of Canadas contiguity to the United States and the relations that such contiguity would bring about between people suffering under similar conditions in either country may have escaped him; in fact at the time the predictions were made the causes that have bred, intensified and embittered our present conditions which are worse for obvious reasons, than those predicted by Macaulay, had not arisen. The plundering of the people by their politicians, governments and officials was unknown—there were no millionaires in Canada forty-five years ago and only an occasional one in the United States. By the new methods of making millionaires by public plunder in both countries more has been accomplished in a short twenty years, by many millionaires in Canada, individually, than several centuries have accomplished, by perseverance, honest work, and great intellectual power, all combined in other countries; in this regard the millionaires in the United States and Canada occupy an unique position. The condition of the people is also unique, for there are no countries, or country in the world, except the United States and Canada, whose people have been reduced from plenty to poverty in twenty years, by the perfidy of their rulers. Cause and effect are easily seen here. The plunderer and the plundered seem almost to meet in the acts, which make them millionaires and paupers respectively. It requires but little penetration, and no gift of prophecy to see that any great upheaval in the United States will be more fatal to Canada than to the United States. How, I ask will the small population of Canada protect themselves against the starving millions of American citizens, (with many former Canadians among them), who have been made houseless and homeless by the sordid, greedy and brutal millionaires of both countries.

There are now five millions of idle men in the United States from about the same causes that there are three hundred thousand in Canada; when this number doubles, as it will in a very few years, what then?

Surely, the politicians, millionaires, and officials in the excitement of plundering the people, could hardly have anticipated the awful consequences. Is it not high time that predictions founded on much stronger grounds than Macaulay's were taken into very serious consideration. Do the millionaires and officials still cry, on with the dance? Are the Neroes still fiddling? The politicians, millionaires and spoilsmen of every kind in both countries, have been pursuing the same Godless methods, which for heartlessness, quite outstrip the methods that for nearly two thousand years have been condemned by every truly Christian Church and every truly Christian man and woman the world over, and all others who are not deaf to the message of the Meek and Lowly Nazarene, to "bear one another's burden's." The voice of the people which is the voice of God when crying for bread, even for a drink of cold water to satisfy the thirst of hunger has been mocked. Those, and the descendants of those who have borne the front and the brunt of the battle in America have been plundered and robbed of their homes; have been in hundreds of thousands of instances slowly murdered by the spoilsmen and millionaires. The tyrant capital of America is never satisfied. History, however, teaches us, that the oppressor or tyrant can only have one end. Let the millionaire and official cry, "On with the dance," for even now we are on the eve of the Waterloo of America.

MAY GOD DEFEND THE JUST.

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